



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** February 14, 2006

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Creeks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Arroyo Burro Estuary And Mesa Creek Restoration Plant Purchase Order

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council:

- A. Find it in the best interest of the City to waive the formal bid process pursuant to Municipal Code section 4.52.080(k); and
- B. Authorize the General Services Manager to increase the purchase order with Santa Barbara Natives in the amount of \$39,189 to provide 5,967 native plants for the Arroyo Burro Estuary and Mesa Creek restoration project.

### DISCUSSION:

On November 16, 2004, the City Council authorized the General Services Manager to issue a purchase order to Santa Barbara Natives in the amount of \$39,974.50 to propagate 5,639 native plants for the Arroyo Burro Estuary and Mesa Creek restoration project. Under the purchase order, Santa Barbara Natives propagated 4,217 native plants. Because construction of the restoration project was delayed, Santa Barbara Natives halted propagation of 1,422 native plants, and issued a credit to the City in the amount of \$7,537.65. Since it would have been costly to maintain the 4,217 plants that had already been propagated, they were planted at community creek stewardship projects on Sycamore and Mission Creek as well as at the restoration site on Old Mission Creek at Bohnett Park. Native plants also do not survive well in pots beyond the first year of propagation.

Since it is anticipated that construction of the Arroyo Burro Estuary and Mesa Creek Restoration Project will begin in June 2006, Staff recommends that Council authorize the General Services Manager to increase the purchase order with Santa Barbara Natives in the amount of \$39,189 in order to re-propagate the native plants needed for the restoration project. The total cost to propagate the 5,967 plants is \$46,726.65 (this includes the credit of \$7,537.65 and \$39,189). This will allow the City to take advantage of the outstanding

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REVIEWED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney

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credit with Santa Barbara Natives. The native plants will be grown from plant cuttings and seeds collected at the restoration site as well as various locations within the Arroyo Burro and Mission Creek watersheds. Plants will be grown at the Santa Barbara Natives nursery site and at the Creeks Division native plant nursery site.

It is anticipated that construction of the Arroyo Burro Estuary and Mesa Creek restoration project will begin in June 2006, and native plant installation will begin in November 2006. Planting will be phased over 2 years with larger hardy species planted during the first phase (year 1) and smaller more delicate species planted during the second phase (year 2). Phased planting will improve plant survival rates and ensure long-term project success.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Funds for growing the native plants are appropriated in the Creeks Division Fiscal Year 2006 Capital Program. The cost to provide these additional services is \$39,189. The cost includes a 10 percent contingency of \$4,034 in the event additional plants are needed for the project. The total cost of the purchase order, including the change order, is \$79,163.50. The Creeks Division has received a number of grants from State and Federal agencies for the restoration project.

**PREPARED BY:** Jill E. Zachary, Creeks Restoration/Clean Water  
Manager/gmj

**SUBMITTED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office